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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Military Information from Plauen

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 13 May 1953

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 10 June 1953

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. Prior to 13 May 1953, the Hindenburg Kaserne in Plauen was occupied to capacity. The installation was guarded by sentries with black-bordered crimson and red-bordered black epaulets. At about 2 p.m. on 1 May, a column of 2,500 to 3,000 unarmed troops with a band marched from the Kopitzschwalde troop training grounds to the installation. Two third of the soldiers wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and the other third red-bordered black epaulets. At the same hour on 2 May, 2,000 to 2,500 unarmed troops with a band came from the training ground and entered the installation. It could not be determined whether these troops were identical with the troops observed on 1 May. On 8 May, 120 EM with entrenching tools, 18 EM with 3 light mortars, 70 EM with rifles, machine guns and aiming targets, 63 EM with 3 light machine guns and 2 heavy machine guns, and 24 EM with reels and telephones came from the training ground and entered the installation. All soldiers wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. A group of 12 EM with red-bordered black epaulets carrying reels and telephone equipment also returned from the training ground to the installation. Almost daily, close-order drill was practiced in the barracks yard.

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2. Prior to 13 May, the Koenig Georg Kaserne was still occupied to capacity by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. On 8 May, about 200 soldiers were observed at close-order drill. Some of the soldiers did aiming practice with 3 x 57-mm AT guns. On 11 May, about 150 soldiers were engaged in close-order drill. Small groups of soldiers repeatedly marched to the Kopitzschwalde training area. Vehicles entering the Koenig G-org Kaserne still had to pass through the Hindenburg Kaserne.

3. Prior to 13 May, no change was observed in the occupation of the Kirchbach Kaserne. The installation was guarded by sentries with black epaulets. There was less training activity at the Kirchbach Kaserne than at the other installations. On 9 May, about 100 EM were engaged in athletics. The radio truck standing in the barracks yard was still operating.

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25X1A

Comment. The 112th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt and the 87th Gun Arty Regt of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div probably were still in Plauen in mid-May 1953.

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